

UP 'TIL DAWN

Campaign participants pull all-nighter of fun

By Lisa Houtchens
Chief Reporter

Winning can mean different things to different people.

To the winning team of the St. Jude's fundraiser Up 'Til Dawn, it means helping kids fight cancer.

The winning team, Money Maker's Part Two, led by Rebecca Carpenter, raised \$10,710. Carpenter, along with teammates Michelle Lackey, Micayla Miller, Danyelle Ritter and Kelsey Clark, took part in the letter-writing campaign, penny wars for the Golden Pond Plunge and individual fund-raisers.

Carpenter grew up learning that being involved and supporting philanthropic work was important.

Each year, Carpenter's aunt donates \$10,000 to the foundation, Carpenter said. This year, the money her aunt donated went to St. Jude's through the letter-writing campaign.

The Carpenter family has its own ties to St. Jude's Hospital.

Carpenter babysat for a young girl that was diagnosed with cancer and died when she was 6.

The family went to St. Jude's for help with their daughter's cancer.

Realizing that St. Jude's could be the families' last hope, and realizing that putting other people first is important, helped Carpenter to work hard to raise money, she said.

"It's fun knowing you are doing something awesome and helping so many other people that you will never know," Carpenter said.

This year's Up 'Til Dawn finale was an event celebrating the efforts of the Up 'Til Dawn participants, Entertainment and Logistic Chair Kayla Scott said.

A Las Vegas theme including an illusionist and Casino games entertained the teams hard work during the year. The events started at 10 p.m. and lasted until 2 a.m. in the Bearcat Arena and Student Recreation Center.

This year more than 100 teams participated in raising money for St. Jude's. The teams participated in a letter writing campaign, garage sale and a fund-raising competition with Pittsburg State at the Fall Classic at Arrowhead, Scott said.

See DAWN on A12

photo by kelsey dempsy | missourian photographer

CAITLIN MOTT SMILES as the dealer, Colby Elder, deals the next blackjack hand. Casino games added to the themed night of the 2008 Up 'Til Dawn Finale.



photo by kelsey dempsy | missourian photographer

THE UP 'Til Dawn Executive Board welcomes Maryville resident and St. Jude's patient Spencer Barr, helping him celebrate his 15th birthday.



photo by kelsey dempsy | missourian photographer

UP 'Til Dawn Executive Board Member, Keaton Guess and Megan Walker challenge each other at boxing while raising money during the all-night event. The event raised more than \$79,000 for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

NW BASKETBALL



photo by Brett Barger | university sports editor

NORTHWEST FORWARD HUNTER Henry walks off the floor after Central Oklahoma ended Northwest's season. The 'Cats lost 73-59 during the regional tournament's semifinal round.

SILENCED IN SEMIS

Half-court shot defines unlikely tournament run

By Scott Levine
Sports Editor

When looking at the 2007-08 Northwest women's basketball team, coach Gene Steinmeyer said one image will always stick out — an image that only until two weeks ago seemed possible.

"This team will always be defined by Meghan's (Brue) shot," Steinmeyer said. "They'll also always be defined by this postseason run."

Brue's half-court shot with two seconds remaining to defeat No. 1-seed West Texas A&M, 72-71, highlighted a historical South Central Regional Tournament last weekend. The game-winning 40-footer delivered the Lady Buffs their first home loss in more than three years.

"That's a play we run in practice," Steinmeyer said. "It really depends on how they choose to cover it. They doubled Mandi (Schumacher) down low, and played behind Meghan. I tell them you have a dribble per second, so we thought Meghan could get within 30-feet and get a good look. But she dropped it at half-court, so she only had one dribble."

"It was a shot no one will ever forget."

The Bearcats, who trailed by as many as 16 points in the second half, notched their second postseason victory of all-time. Northwest hadn't won a regional tournament game since 1984.

But after winning four must-win tournament games, dating back to the MIAA tournament championship run, Northwest (18-13), finally fell to Emporia State 83-71. The loss marked the season's third loss to Emporia.

"Two things happened," Steinmeyer said. "We got in bad foul trouble. We were way too aggressive, but we were still in control until Meghan got hurt. She was taking it to Michelle Stueve, but after getting hurt, she just wasn't the same."

"We did the best we could, but after Meghan got hurt, it never really felt right."

When Brue went down with the hip injury, Northwest held an 8-point lead, and the junior guard had 10 points. The hip injury limited Brue to 27 minutes of playing time, and four points after the 8:51 mark in the first half.

Despite Andrea Dill, Jessica Burton and April Miller each having three fouls, the 'Cats never trailed in the first half and went into halftime up 41-30. That lead evaporated in the first three minutes of the second half, when the



photo by Scott Levine | sports editor

NORTHWEST GUARD LINDSAY Bayer drives to the hoop during the MIAA tournament final. The Bearcats won four must-win tournament games, until losing to Emporia State 83-71.

Poor shooting hinders men's Elite Eight bid

By Brett Barger
University Sports Editor

For the first 49 minutes, Northwest went through the South Central Regional Tournament like a buzz saw. The Bearcats scored the first 15 points of its regional opener last Saturday, and never looked back in a 72-48 win over St. Edwards.

Northwest had 19 steals and scored 35 points off 26 turnovers. The defense also held St. Edwards' starters to 16 total points.

The same stifling defense carried over into the first nine minutes in the regional semifinal. Central Oklahoma shot 10 percent early in the game.

Northwest took advantage, jumping out to a 21-7 lead. Then, the Cats' lead evaporated after a 21-5 run by Central Oklahoma to close out the first half. That was all the momentum the Bronchos needed in handing Northwest a 73-59 loss, ending Northwest's season at 24-8. Northwest shot a season-low 29 percent.

"Boy, they brought it back at us. It was hard-fought, even in the last five minutes. We just really went cold," coach Steve Tappmeyer said, whose team makes a semifinal exit for the second-straight year. "We had some good looks we couldn't get down, but I thought we hit the panic button and took some tough shots as well."

Despite the poor defense, Northwest kept itself in the game for the first part of the second half. Matt Withers' jumper gave Northwest a 41-38 lead with 9:21 left, but the 'Cats didn't make another field goal until Mike Larsen's 3-pointer with 38 seconds left and Northwest down 72-56.

The Bronchos' defense made Matt Withers and Andy Peterson's last game a nightmare. The two combined for 17 points, and shot 3-of-12 from the field. "These are two guys you hate to lose as a coach," Tappmeyer said of the two.

"Both have given us five years as great players, and they did it the right way."

Hunter Henry, fresh off being named the MIAA Tournament MVP, led Northwest with 13 points and went 4-of-12 from the field.

"A lot of them, when I let go, looked like they were in, but they either came in and out or hit the front rim just a little short," Henry said. "I did get a little frustrated, and that affected me a little bit down the stretch."

The team loses six seniors: Peterson, Withers, Mose Howard, Andreis Thornton, Kelvin Cayruth and John Hawkins. Peterson and Withers started the majority of the season. Henry, Lance Sullivan and Eddie Gray return next season to lead the offense.

COMMUNITY NEWS

"I believe in miracles and so you constantly are believing that, and praying and hoping that he's going to be OK."

Becky Klino, Branson Perry's mother

Search for missing man continues

By Kenny Larabee
Chief Reporter

It's been nearly seven years since Branson Perry went missing from his father's home in Skidmore.

Seven long years.

On April 11, 2001, Perry, who was 20 at the time, was cleaning his father's house with a friend. At approximately 3 p.m. that afternoon, Perry took jumper cables out to his father's nearby shed and was never seen again.

Seven years later, Perry's mother, Becky Klino, hasn't lost the love for her son, nor her hope for his return.

"My faith believes in miracles," Klino said. "I believe in miracles and so you constantly are believing that, and praying and hoping that he's going to be OK. That he's going to come home. That he just had to get away and for whatever reason, that part doesn't matter anymore, and you hope that one day he'll just decide to come home."

Since Perry went missing, authorities from Nodaway County and the Missouri State Highway Patrol have been investigating the disappearance. The investigation remains active and open Missouri State Highway Patrol Sgt. David Merrill said, but added that authorities can't discuss many details.

Not being able to hear about leads has been extremely tough for Klino.

"As a parent, you want to know what's going on. If they know something, you want to be able to know that, so that way you know that things are being done," Klino said. "That they're following up on things, however trivial they may be, or insignificant they might be. You just... anything, you want to hear anything that's happening."

Through the Internet and billboards supplied by both herself and Lamar, Klino hopes to help keep people thinking about her son in hopes that it will bring any new information to light.

See MISSING on A12

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Palms' parade: just as famous for what doesn't happen

By Sean Comer
Political Reporter

The Palms' "world's shortest St. Patrick's Day parade" marched one block closer to the history books.

It started marching, one block at a time between Fourth and Fifth streets down Buchanan Avenue, 21 years ago. Former owner of the Palms Mark Allen hasn't missed a step since.

"It gets shorter and better every year," Allen said. Onlookers knew Allen as Lucky the Clown this year, his "third or fourth" year brightening the block as Lucky. Before that he drove electric cars and scooters.

The parade began in 1985 as an effort to match New York's Guinness Book of World Records—affirmed world's largest St. Patrick's Day parade at the opposite end of the spectrum.

The fact Guinness representatives year after year decline visiting Maryville to verify the record hasn't put a damper on anything in the meantime.

It never stops the Palms' present owners, Paul and Melissa Thompson, from trying to summon some lofty names to act as the parade's Grand Marshall.

Just like trying year after year to set a world record, the Palms even turns the thanks-but-no-thanks letters into a celebration of sorts.

See PALMS' on A12

"Boy, they brought it back at us. It was hard-fought, even in the last five minutes. We just really went cold."

Steve Tappmeyer, Northwest Coach

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Spring concert tickets go on sale

Tickets for the Dierks Bentley, Bucky Covington and Luke Bryan concert will go on sale at 8 a.m., Monday, March 31, at the Student Services Center in the Administration Building.

They will be on sale through Friday, April 4.

The concert is at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 16, in Bearcat Stadium.

Tickets are \$5 for students with a valid Bearcat Card and \$15 for the public.

For more information, contact the Campus Activities Office at 562-1226.

Meetings planned for study abroad

Study Abroad informational sessions will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, March 24, at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, in the Intercultural and International Center conference room on the J.W. Jones Student Union second floor.

Organizations host jump rope event

Jump Rope for Heart will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, April 5, on the Centennial Garden and Missouri Academy of Science, Mathematics and Computing Lawn.

There will be free will donations for participants.

Horace Mann Laboratory School will provide the jump ropes.

Those interested can sign up at any residence hall front desk.

The event is sponsored by the Missouri Academy, KZLX 106.7, the Residence Hall Association, the American Heart Association and the Student Activities Council.

For more information or donation information contact 562-1700.

Classic raises money for philanthropies

The 2008 Greek Classic will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 5, at the Mozingo Golf Course.

Those interested in signing up a four-person team must do so by Friday.

The cost is \$50 for students and \$65 for adults.

The cost to sponsor a hole is \$200.

Proceeds will go to the SSM Hospice and Home Care Foundation.

For more information, to sign up a team or to sponsor a hole contact the Greek Life Office at 562-1226.

Northwest hosts piano prodigy

Jeffrey Ly, 13, will perform at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 6, in the Charles Johnson Theater.

Ly began piano studies at 5, and performed in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and twice at the White House.

The concert is free and sponsored by a Northwest Culture of Quality Grant and the music department.

PERSONALITY PROFILE



IRMA MERRICK HAS cashiered for Campus Dining for 20 years. When she first accepted the job her plan was to stay only for a year. She hasn't decided what she will do after retirement.

Familiar Union cashier plans retirement after 2 decades

By Lisa Houtchens
Chief Reporter

Monday through Friday, Campus Dining cashier Irma Merrick clocks in at five minutes until 7 a.m. and clocks out at five minutes until 2 p.m. With a quick swipe of a card her time is recorded.

She opens the doors, makes cappuccino, and stocks food before greeting students with a smile.

Smiles and "helllo's" greet Merrick as the morning and afternoon rush of students pass through with their meals.

"How are you today?" Merrick says as many students pass.

Twenty years ago she accepted a short term cashier job on campus.

"I decided to do it (cashiering) a year, this is my 20th," Merrick said. "But it's worked out pretty good."

Merrick began working for Aramark Food Services in fall 1987 after a conversation while bowling with the supervisor, she said.

Staying busy is not a problem for Merrick. When the rush of students pass she jokes with the other cashiers, taps her foot a few times and rushes off to replenish the granola bars and crackers.

"I'm getting to be 80, and I can't stand in one place too long," Merrick said. "I can move around, it's not too bad."

Merrick gets along well with not only the students but also her coworkers.

Campus Dining cashier Donna Joslin has worked with Merrick for three years.

"She always has a smile on her face," Joslin said. "She's here every day, regardless, I think that is so much to be admired."

It came as no surprise to the staff when she announced her planned retirement, Campus Dining Assistant Director Kelly Zimmerman said. Merrick will be missed when she retires in May.

"We were all ready for it," Zimmerman said. "Maybe she will change her mind."

After 20 years of service to campus dining, she is ready to move on to something new. Merrick isn't sure what she is going to do after her retirement in May, but she will miss the students, she said.

Knitting, word circles and staying active with her church will keep her busy until she decides what to do next.

"I think it's time to get off my feet," Merrick said. "I'm trying to put it in the Lord's hands."

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Department has 'solid' outlook after 100 years

By Destinee Biesemeyer
Missourian Reporter

In 1908, what is now known as the Family and Consumer Science department (FCS) began with one student and one faculty member. Since then, the program has grown to include 2,156 graduates and four specialized majors.

"I think it caught on quickly and soon changed into a home economics class with the primary focus of preparing teachers," Department Chair Frances Shipley said.

After 100 years, the department has experienced multiple significant moments and changes including recognition of the honor society Kappa Omicron Nu.

Student Ambassador and FCS education major Nicole Thompson said the honor society has regular fund-raisers and holds an etiquette dinner in the spring.

To commemorate the 100-year anniversary, this week is full of activities, fund-raisers and ceremonies.

Thompson said that part of this week's activities are providing breakfast and cookies for faculty and students.

The FCS program is also helping the campus by raising money for a centennial tree to be planted in

honor of the 100th anniversary.

Shipley said students used artwork from the Family and Consumer Science department to create and sell postcards to raise money for a commemorative centennial tree to be planted on campus.

In addition to the festivities, the FCS department has received another honor.

Susan Altizer, a 1973 graduate of 1973 will be named as an Indispensable Woman of Northwest, Shipley said.

The future of the program has a solid outlook with several opportunities for growth and change.

Shipley said the largest growing program is the Dietetics Association and expects that to continue. Also the FCS department might branch out to include more interdisciplinary projects with other majors and increase research.

"Family and Consumer Science is a profession that focuses on improving the quality of life in all aspects of the family," Shipley said.

After a century of growth, Shipley thinks the FCS department will continue to prosper.

"I think we have established a very rich 100-year heritage, which is an extremely good foundation for which to build the future," Shipley said.

"I think we have established a very rich 100-year heritage, which is an extremely good foundation for which to build the future."

Frances Shipley, Family and Consumer Science department chair

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE



BARBARA MARTINEZ JITNER ended this year's Distinguished Lecture Series on Tuesday night. She is a writer, director and producer. Her work focuses on Latin American women's lives and contributions. Some of her work includes a documentary called "La Frontera" about Latina factory workers.

March recognizes campus supplies provider

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

March recognizes campus supplies provider

By Micheal Clements
Missourian Reporter

They supply every thing on campus from construction contracts to hand soap.

The Northwest Purchasing Department oversees the purchasing all items on campus, such as toilet tissue at the right quality and price.

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing recognizes March as Purchasing Month to recognize professionals in purchasing.

"We do try to celebrate just to have people be aware that we're here," Martin said. "We have documentation that through the bid process and establishing contracts that we save the University money."

Purchasing oversees all spending and makes sure contracts are done properly.

"Our mission is getting in the right quality, at the right time, at the right price," Martin said. "Whatever that customer wants, we want to make sure their needs are here on time, whether it's a commodity or a service."

The purchasing department has about 100 contracts for services, Mar-

tin said.

Products and services costing more than \$3,000 go through a bid process and may require contracts, Martin said. Contract services include plumbing, electrical and masonry.

Purchasing works as a team with people needing supplies or contracts made, Martin said.

The department is involved in large construction projects, like the building of Hudson and Perrin Halls, Senior Buyer Angie Wolters said.

"Purchasing is involved in about everything that happens on campus," Wolters said.

A lot of research goes into establishing contracts, Martin said. The department networks with several different universities and state agencies to research companies.

Making sure everybody on campus complies with regulations the department follows is another of the department's duties.

The department makes sure an ample supply of things such as toilet tissue and hand soap are available, Martin said.

The department leads a committee of people collected from other departments to evaluate products on

campus.

"We want to make sure that the customers here on campus, and that's the faculty and staff as well as students are going for the best quality," Martin said.

Getting feedback is essential to the evaluation process, Martin said.

The department does everything possible to keep students comfortable on campus to live a normal life, Wolters said.

"A lot of what we do is behind the scenes for other people," Martin said. "We work as a team for the whole campus."

The department oversees the purchasing office, central receiving, central stores, the moving crew, used furniture and surplus.

Everything comes to campus through the Materials Distribution Center, Martin said.

Keeping things at a lower cost helps everybody including taxpayers and students, Martin said.

"We are trying to take the time, each one of us buyers, to go out and visit departments and let them know what we can do to help you, and what we can do to make your job easier," she said.

COMMUNITY

LOCAL BUSINESS

Restaurant find success mixing family, sports

By Dominic Genelli
Community News Editor

Nearly a year and a half ago, Carson Riedel and his father-in-law, Ken Carmichael, were renovating their building at 310 N. Main St. into a new sports-themed family restaurant.

Today, Carson's Sports Grille has become a popular Maryville hot spot for students and citizens.

Business started off fast with many patrons desiring a taste of the new restaurant. Combine that with a Bearcat football season and you get one busy opening.

"After the initial shock settled in, we refocused and now we're something that people love," Riedel, 32, said.

Unlike many of the Maryville restaurants located on the south end of town, Carson's is right on the square and Riedel sees location as part of its advantage.

"To our benefit, all the other bars are here too," Riedel said, "and we're not just another watering hole, we're just a place where you get the food and then (you) go the watering hole."

That's the one thing that was missing here. There was a place where all the kids felt comfortable going and hanging out."

While searching for a location though, Maryville's south end wasn't left out as a possibility.

"We considered the lot behind Applebee's as a place to potentially build a brand new facility," Riedel said.

The in-law owners, however, preferred downtown.

Carson's can be found packed with hungry and/or thirsty patrons on weekends and on popular game days, no matter the sport. Wednesdays have given the restaurant a spot in the limelight with weekly karaoke.

"What happened for us is we came in and filled a niche," Riedel said. "There was nothing like this here and that's what I think first and foremost, made us successful."

The menu offers a variety of selections, but the most popular item, the "Goalkeeper," made with



sourdough bread, cheddar, turkey, bacon and cream cheese, has a Bearcat influence.

"It happened to be invented by the goaltender for the girls' soccer team, Lauren Hodgson," Riedel said. "She consistently ordered (it) and (tried) to get other people to order it and now, all of a sudden, people come in and order the 'Goalkeeper'."

A regular customer, Hodgson made up the sandwich one day out of the blue.

"I just put a bunch of different things that I really like together and (it) turned out pretty good," Hodgson said. "I cut up there all the time and I just wanted to try something new and I really like cream cheese, so I just made my own little sandwich."

New menu debut May 1 and Riedel plans to have the popular sandwich, or "sammy," as they're known, available.

Running the restaurant has become a family affair for Riedel and Carmichael, and while they are seen running the show, their wives are a big help behind the scenes.

"I have been very fortunate that they have accepted me into their family," Riedel said. "While I'm Carson, the restaurant should be called 'Carmichael's'."

Ken and Marleen, my in-laws and their daughter (Renee), my wife are 75 percent of what makes this thing go. Without Renee and Marleen, we couldn't have done this."

Some days are fun and exciting, others are rough and disappointing, but Riedel said it's all part of the business.

"We have our high points and our low points, but I'm fortunate to have support of (my) family and support of (my) staff," he said. "When one of us gets down, we pull each other up."

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Parent projects help students

By Katie Luers
Missourian Reporter

Parents of Maryville High School students hope to provide a safe post-prom and graduation atmosphere again this year.

Committee Chairwomen Cathy Demott and Terri Dawson have worked since January to plan for "Project Prom" and "Project Graduation."

Both events offer safe alternatives to partying. The goal is to lower student drinking after prom and graduation.

This year, between six and seven parents are helping to plan events.

"We all work together to organize it," committee member Kim Flores said.

This year "Project Prom" will have games and activities available including inflatable games, a "cash cube" to win money or prizes and a magician or comedian.

Activities during "Project Graduation" include the opening of a time capsule, a senior slideshow and glow-in-the-dark games at the Student Recreation Center.

Student names will be drawn to win prizes during both events. Prizes

include items such as tanning passes and meal coupons to local businesses.

For the events to happen, parents and students worked to fundraise over the last year.

The main fundraiser is the "Air Rock" performance held every other year, alternating with the spring play. Funds are raised through admission and T-shirt sales.

"Air Rock" is a lip-synching contest put on by the students at Maryville High School, Flores said.

Support for "Project Prom" and "Project Graduation" also comes from the community. Some community members and businesses donate money for the events.

"Businesses have always been generous to the kids," Dawson said.

Last year, 275 people attended "Project Prom." Both senior and junior students attended with their dates.

At "Project Graduation," 75 senior students attended.

Students do not have to pay admission to either event.

Any parents wanting to help out with either "Project Prom" or "Project Graduation" should contact Cathy Demott or Terri Dawson.

COMMUNITY PROFILE



MARYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL Principal Jason Eggers taught at Mound City High School for three years before becoming principal there for seven more.

Principal continues focus on improving student success

By Katie Luers
Missourian Reporter

In his first year as Maryville High School principal, Jason Eggers is finding a way to work with everyone.

"I appreciate that he works well with people, kids, adults, staff and parents," superintendent Vicki Miller said.

Eggers is from Camdenton, Mo., and was first attracted to Maryville when he attended college at Northwest.

"At the time, it was because of the music department," Eggers said about his decision to come Maryville.

While at Northwest, he earned three different degrees, a bachelor's degree in vocal music education, a master's degree in secondary Administration and a specialist degree in superintendency.

His enjoyment of music led him to his teaching degree.

Before becoming a principal, Eggers taught vocal music at Mound City for three and a half years. He then worked as principal in the same school for seven years.

He chose the position of principal, because it has the characteristic of being different on a daily basis.

After working in Mound City, Eggers decided to move to Maryville.

"It was a great opportunity for myself and my family, to grow professionally and learn," Eggers said.

The move eliminated the commute for his wife, LaKena, to St. Francis Hospital, and provided more activities for his preschool-aged daughter, Lanee.

By making the shift to Maryville, he moved to an area

with about four times as many students as Mound City.

"It's been a good experience getting to know the community, parents and teachers," Eggers said.

"The students are really excited about what they do."

His main focus for the year is to encourage positive behavior from students and to build a safe and structured school environment with a focus on trust within the system.

Miller sees this focus on student performance and improvement as a very positive attribute.

"So far, it has been a successful year," said Miller.

Eggers hopes to continue to provide a place for students to have fun while learning.

"The school district has a great mission... I'm working towards that and preparing students for their future," Eggers said.

CITY BRIEFS

Middle School holding dodge ball tourney

The Maryville Middle School seventh grade class is trying to raise money to put roofs over the dugouts and spectator bleachers at Donaldson Park.

To gain more money a dodge ball tournament will be held 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 29, at Maryville Middle School. There will be carnival games for kids and a concession stand.

For more information, contact Maryville middle school at 562-3244.

Murder suspects granted new judge

Judge Randall Jackson of Missouri's fifth judicial district has been assigned to the second-degree murder trial of Erik Romig and Nicholas Rosencrans, following a motion from their attorneys.

Their trial is scheduled for Sept. 10 to 12 at the Nodaway County courthouse, however, a change of venue has been requested.

Rosencrans is now being represented by Stephen Hinginotham. He was previously represented by Michelle Carpenter.

Romig is still represented by Kenton Hall.

Romig and Rosencrans are accused of murdering Donald Ray Gardner, Jr on Nov. 16.

Fraternity hosting Easter egg hunt

An Easter egg hunt will take place at 2 p.m. at Beal Park April 16. Phi Delta Theta is hosting the event which is also supported by the city of Maryville.

ADVERTISEMENT
Anxiety – Don't Kill the Messenger
A message from the Northwest Wellness Center



By Michael Mattock, Psy.D.
Counseling Services/Wellness Center

Anxiety is one of the most common issues that people deal with today.

Because of the discomfort that anxiety causes, we tend to view it as an enemy and try to distance ourselves from it by distracting ourselves with alcohol, TV and other excesses, or by thinking about it in an effort to figure it out and be rid of it. The problem with both tactics is that they are generally ineffective and increase anxiety.

An alternative response to anxiety is simply to be aware of it, to view it as a messenger bringing us needed information about our life. Awareness of our emotions entails a willingness to accept the feeling as part of our current experience and openness to learning what the anxiety is trying to tell us about needed change in our life.

This openness can take the form of a concrete question: "What is this feeling trying to tell me about needed change in my thinking, behavior or current situation?" If we ask ourselves, we open up the possibility for learning what we need to change in our life. This sets the stage for needed action to bring about these changes. And when we adaptively act in response to what we have learned about ourselves, the level of our anxiety decreases and we become more the self that we are called to be in this world.

One last note: As with most new behavior, at first this response to one's anxiety may seem foreign, uncomfortable and even counter-productive. However, if you persist in taking this viewpoint, there is great potential for decreased struggle, new learning and ongoing growth. Anxiety is a great teacher if we don't try to kill the messenger.

This is a message from the Northwest Wellness Center. For more information about this topic, or to learn about our services for students, please call ext. 1348.

We are the specialists in college health.

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Various

OUR VIEW

Project will help restore what winter destroyed

In the aftermath of last December's ice storm, the Northwest campus looks a little bare.

Before the storm hit, the Northwest campus had approximately 1,300 trees representing 125 different species.

Afterwards, about 40 percent of those trees were left damaged. Of the approximately 500 trees damaged, nearly 80 had to be removed.

Three months ago the Northwest Missourian ran an Our View encouraging University and community members to help rebuild Northwest's arboretum. This project now comes full circle with the recent University announcement of Project Plant-A-Tree.

On Friday, April 11, University officials will begin the process of restoring Northwest as a Missouri State Arboretum.

Project Plant-A-Tree will be held at the Memorial Bell Tower to honor employees who worked to keep campus safe during the ice storm. After a small ceremony, students, faculty, staff and community members can then volunteer to go around campus and help plant the new, donated trees.

The Northwest Missourian would like to encourage anyone who can to either volunteer to help plant the new trees or donate money to help replace those that were lost.

Those that are interested can contact Amy Nally, coordinator of volunteer services, at 562-1956 or visit the Northwest homepage at NWmissouri.edu and click on the tree in the bottom, right-hand corner.

COMMENTS FROM NWMISSOURIANEWS.COM

(The following comments have not been edited or changed. They appear in print as they do on the Web site.)

In response to "Government should not force abortion providers to turn over patient names, information" Anonymous posted 3/18

The fact that you would even remotely compare the killing of an innocent unborn child to removal of a mole is sickening.

Rudy Rigot posted 3/19

The comparison is indeed somehow clumsy. However, the fact people would remotely compare a non-living overdeveloped cell to an innocent unborn child has been sickening to me for years.

Is also annoying any person who complains about a law that doesn't mean any kind of obligation for themselves. Anyway, I apologize to the journalist (whose article I enjoyed reading, actually), I know the right for abortion isn't the topic, but the obligation for citizens to follow the law, whether they agree with it or not. People against abortion, if you wanna try to change the law, be my guest; however, you'll have to follow the current one until you succeed...

Have opinions? Want them heard?

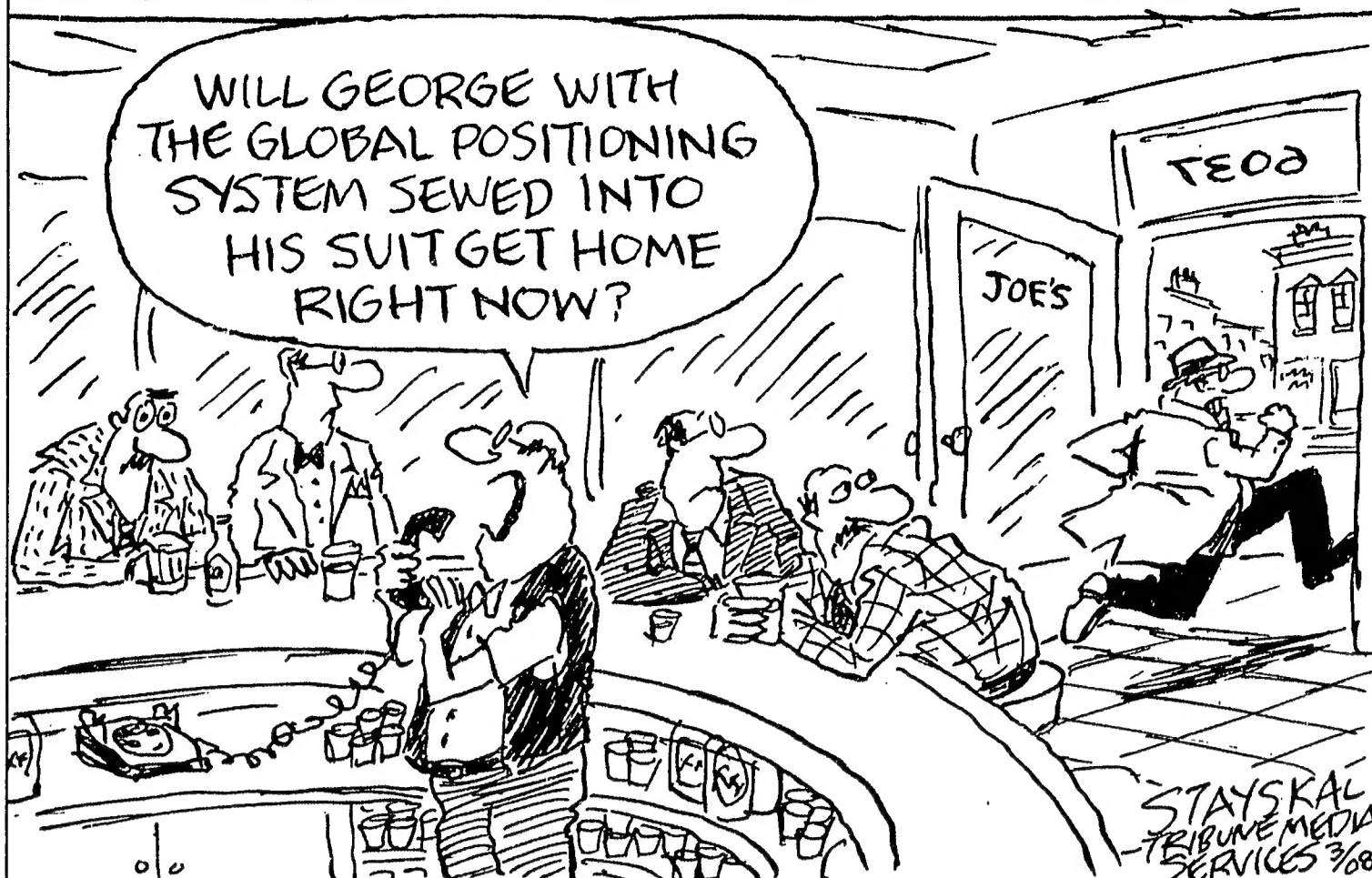
The Northwest Missourian opinion page is looking for students and community members interested in being guest columnists or editorial writers for the spring trimester.

So, if you're a political animal, a news fanatic or just need to get something off your chest, feel free to submit.

If you're interested contact us by calling us in the newsroom at 660-562-1224 or e-mailing us at northwestmissourian@hotmail.com. Letters to the editor can also be submitted via e-mail.

OPINION

500% INCREASE IN GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS SOLD



MY VIEW

Iraqi's optimism for Baghdad fades five years later

By Ali Marzook
The Institute for War & Peace Reporting

BAGHDAD—Five years after the United States invaded Iraq and overthrew Saddam Hussein, it's hard to see any progress in areas critical to the development of the country.

There is no sign of economic development. The country's infrastructure is shattered, as is the spirit of its people. There is little optimism for the future. Instead, we are surrounded by fear, depression and violence.

I returned to Baghdad late last year and initially felt hopeful. My neighbors and friends were gone from my old neighborhood, but the violence was decreasing and security appeared to be improving.

But my optimism vanished the more I explored the capital. Unlike when I left several years ago, the city center is now surrounded by cement walls resembling a jail. Intended to protect its residents, the barriers succeed only in diminishing Baghdad's former beauty and greatness.

And the change I witnessed isn't just

physical. Fear has taken over the people, destroying the city's social fabric.

No one dares to utter a controversial word in front of his friend or neighbors, for fear that the individual may report him to a political party or militia.

When I tried to talk with one man about the current situation in the country, the man's 19-year-old son interrupted, saying, "Please, we aren't involved in politics. We don't know you or your party."

When I assured him that speaking about issues was not political, he replied, "Everything now is political."

Most Iraqis look exhausted, the years of tension and nervousness apparent on their faces. You can see it in their eyes; they anticipate death at any moment and around any corner.

People thank God when they arrive home safely to enjoy time with their families. But as night falls, the atmosphere grows dark. Those without private generators sit in darkness, with electricity still in short supply. They worry that some militia or criminal

gang will come under the cover of darkness to kill or kidnap them.

The random shooting one can hear every night in the capital only serves to deepen their fears.

The absence of law and order has forced Baghdad residents to adopt a survivalist mindset. Without jobs or the prospect of employment, many turn to crime just to survive.

For amusement, people watch the broadcast sessions of parliament. No one really believes that the lawmakers are there to defend their interests or protect their rights. After years of squabbling and inertia, many view the promised democratic process as a bad joke.

Most people's bitterness is clear. Officials make promises and speeches, but, having been lied to so often, Iraqis dismiss them. The politicians are considered liars, and the parliament powerless.

Five years after the fall of Saddam, what's amazing is that there is so little to show for the suffering that the Iraqi people have endured.

MY VIEW

Kosovo's struggle may serve as model for countries in similar situations

(Editor's Note: This is the third in a three-part series on Kosovo's history, present problems and future.)

After discussing the history and the current situation of Kosovo's declaration of independence, I feel it necessary to analyze what problems and advancements might arise in the future.

One major positive outcome in Kosovo's newly declared independence will be the development of the country, not just politically, but economically as well.

As established previously, Kosovo is one of the poorest regions in the Balkans with an appallingly large number of citizens unemployed and below the poverty line.

One other thing to keep in mind is that the independence was supervised; meaning that the parties involved previously, the United Nations for example, are still involved and will be in the future, by protecting the borders and keeping peace internally. It is widely believed that with or without supervi-



Kathleen Wilmes
Contributing Columnist

sion, Kosovo would have declared independence regardless, and that it was only a matter of time, and that supervised independence is the best route in terms of peace.

However, with the benefits of independence also come the potential negative impacts, locally and internationally. The independence of Kosovo does not just affect Kosovo and Serbia, but the entire Balkan region.

One area of concern that must be addressed is the relationship between the Albanian majority and the Serbian minority within Kosovo, or the blood feuds. Yes, Kosovo suffered extreme ethnic cleansing, but the ideals that led to Kosovo's independence will be meaningless if the minority within Kosovo is purposely targeted, either in a humanitarian sense, or a physical sense. There are several Serbian patrimonial sites within Kosovo, including monasteries, and the areas in which Serbia feels to be of

extreme historical importance.

Along with the stability within Kosovo comes the stability within the Balkan region. Many opponents of Kosovo's independence believe that Kosovo's step towards independence would renew the violence within the Balkans, creating a large step backwards in regards to recently made progress.

There is also the international relationship between several countries and the United States, as well as the United Nations. Many countries around the world support the independence of Kosovo, such as the United Kingdom, the United States and France, to name a few. Many appear to be rather centrist, but there are a few that are very angered by this issue, more specifically Serbia and Russia. Both believe that the declaration of independence to be illegal and to blatantly oppose international law and the precedents set forth by United Nations itself, or the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1244, which was discussed in the previous piece.

Kosovo has a lot in common with other regions around the world. Several countries have a problem comparable to that of Serbia: the ethnic divisions. The

COMMENTS FROM NWMISSOURIANEWS.COM

(The following comments have not been edited or changed. They appear in print as they do on the Web site.)

In response to "Warren: 'Free your secrets'" Katrina posted 3/12

I LOVED having Frank Warren here. It was an amazing night, and I would love if he'd come back SOON.

In response to "Local bars originally played different roles in Maryville downtown" Katrina posted 3/12

I really enjoyed this article. I believe the history of this town is important even if it's not my home town, but especially because you targeted places that are so popular.

Ruth Smith posted 3/18

This is a really good article I didn't know Maryville had any bottling companies! I enjoy reading the history of NW Missouri.

In response to "Other nations debate legality of Kosovo's declaration of independence" Jack posted 3/13

Albanians living in southern Serbia aka Kosovo started leaving after the US sent 2500 jets to bomb the place. I would have left myself if I was living there. Before the US started bombing Albanians were migrating to Serbia.

When Serbia closed the border to stop these people from leaving, the US insisted that it re-open to let them leave. So I do not understand what you are talking about.

The UN estimates that 2500 people died while fighting in Kosovo. This was before the US started bombing. Half of these people were Serbs.

2500 soldiers dying in a war is not even a large number considering the amount of people that died in Vietnam, Iraq etc.

I can understand that you have an ideological position on this issue that will never really have any effect on your life, but I do not understand why you would lie to people who take the time to read your articles.

Top Ten Ways to Ensure a Safe Spring Break:

1) Go out in groups and make sure no one is ever left alone or behind.

2) Always keep emergency money in a separate place other than your purse or wallet.

3) Avoid casual sex with someone you just met, or make sure you practice safe sex.

4) Be careful following people you don't know back to hotel rooms, parties, homes, etc.

5) Don't carry lots of cash. Use credit or debit cards or traveler's checks.

6) If a theft occurs, report your card stolen immediately and have it cancelled.

7) Do not accept drinks from strangers unless you watch it being poured.

8) Don't ever leave your drink out of sight.

9) Never leave an intoxicated friend.

10) Always Buckle Up!

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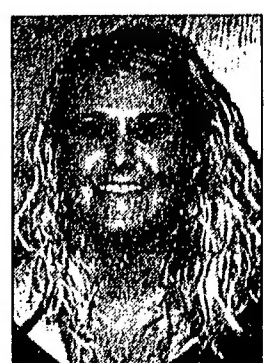
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CAMPUS TALK

Who will win the NCAA tournament?



"Missouri ... Oh wait, they didn't make it."
Bobby Ziegler
Biology, Psychology



"North Carolina, because it's the only team I know that's in it."
Ashley Dillon
Political Science



"Kansas, because they are the most complete team in basketball."
DeWayne McIntyre
Public Relations

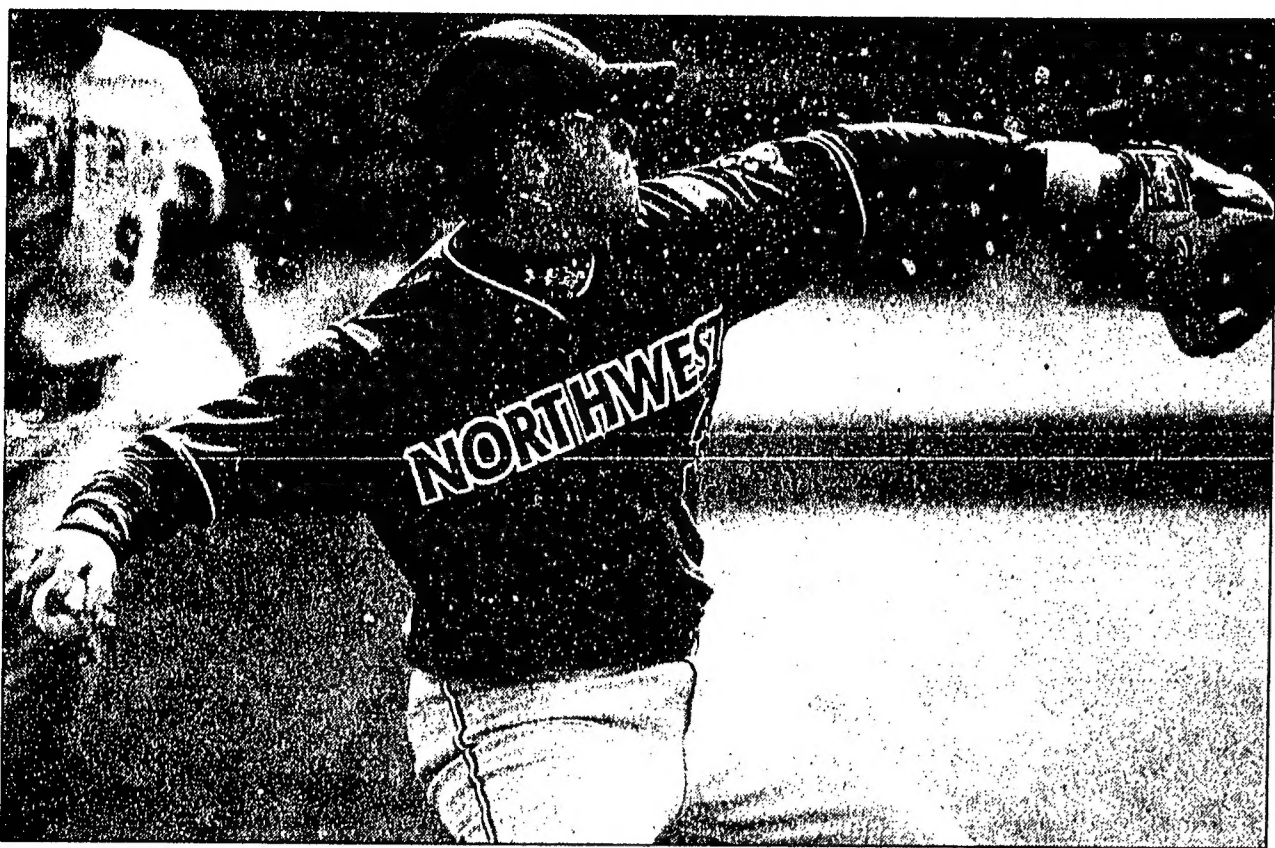


"UCLA, because they have the nicest cheerleaders."
Emily Lipira
History



"North Carolina, because I hate Kansas."
Casey Thompson
Management

NW BASEBALL



NORTHWEST THIRD BASEMAN Ben Malick throws to first and makes the final out of the seventh inning in game one against Central Missouri. Malick went 2-for-4 with one RBI during the 6-5, 12-inning affair.

Extras make Harper a hero

By Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor

In his short 13-game collegiate career, Brett Harper has a total of two at-bats for the Northwest baseball team. The first, a simple pinch-hit fly out to left field. The second was his team's ball game.

With the bases loaded and one out in the bottom of the 12th inning, Harper delivered a pinch-hit RBI single to right field to defeat Central Missouri 6-5, Friday.

"I was trying to put the ball on the ball to try to get the fly in," Harper said. "Somehow it fell over his head, and it worked out for the best."

"The first pitch was a slider, it was low, and I screwed it up. He pitched the same thing and I had a feeling he would do that, and I just took it to right field."

Coach Darin Lee's decision to substitute Harper came from watching Central Missouri pitcher Chris Matlock repeatedly shut down the club's right-handed hitters. Harper was the last left-handed hitter left on Lee's bench.

Harper's big hit came after an offensive drought for both teams.

Until the bottom of the 12th, neither team scored after the sixth inning due in large part to two great pitching performances, Lee said. Matlock took the loss, but only allowed one unearned run. Northwest's Evan Nickell, who usually closes for the Bears, pitched the longest outing of his career going 6 2/3 innings, allowing no runs on three hits and earning the win. The win gives Northwest its 1,000th victory.

Nickell's only trouble came in the 10th inning when he was forced to pitch out of a jam with runners on second and third with one out.

"Their catcher was up... and we just kind of nibbled on the outside corner and got him to chase a few pitches. And we ended up striking him out," Nickell said. "That was probably the biggest out of the game. That was huge."

Nickell forced the next hitter to fly out, ending the threat.

The 'Cats' win against Central Missouri should give them confidence, Nickell said. The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association ranked the Mules 12th in the country and first in the central region.

WOMEN: Second-half surge propels Emporia to regional final appearance

Continued from A1

Hornets used a 10-3 run to gain their first lead, 46-44.

Consecutive 3-pointers by Kelli Nelson and Lauren Williams elevated Northwest to a 4-point lead two minutes later. With 11:25 remaining, Micaela Uriell's trey extended Northwest's lead to six points, before Emporia State ended the contest on a 27-10 run.

"Our offense had some issues in the second half," Schumacher said. "We just weren't getting the defensive stops we needed to get. It's hard to go through droughts when facing a team like Emporia."

Washburn defeated Emporia last Monday, 73-58, to earn an Elite Eight berth.

Steinmeyer said the last two weeks helped erase memories of an overall inconsistent season.

"I'm not going to lie, this was

not the easiest team to coach," Steinmeyer said. "It was a hard team to figure out. We had good kids who all got along, but we just couldn't find the right groove during the season. I didn't do a very good job of motivating. It was the post-season to get them motivated."

Seven games into the season, Northwest sat atop the MIAA conference. At the end of the season, the 'Cats had dropped seven of its last 10 games en route to a fifth-place finish.

"I've never been on a team with so many low points and some good high points," Nelson said. "We pretty much hit all the extremes."

But a MIAA tournament championship and a regional tournament victory, helped alter the legacy left by the five seniors.

"I'm really proud of this team," Schumacher said. "We went above and beyond what everyone thought.

BEARCATS

NW TRACK

Indoor season ends as runners make early exit from nationals

By Marcus Meade
Asst. Sports Editor

John Miles, Kendall Wright and E.J. Falkner brought the indoor track season to a close for the Northwest track team last weekend.

All three represented Northwest in the National Indoor Championships, but were eliminated in the preliminaries.

"E.J. didn't get out of the blocks very well, and I think one of the problems with that was twice the official called the runners up because people were wiggling and not getting set," coach Richard Alsop said. "I think that put a lot of caution in people."

Caution about getting a false start may have cost Falkner valuable time in an event that he finished third in three years ago, Alsop said.

Miles, who also ran the 60-meter

dash, didn't have problems getting out of the blocks and finished ahead of Falkner by almost one-tenth of a second.

Miles said he was happy with just being at nationals, but also admitted he may have underestimated some of the other runners.

"Some of the other schools, I underestimated a little bit," Miles said. "I went into it looking at it like the conference meet or the meet we had at the University of Nebraska. It had a lot of good runners."

Wright struggled along with his teammates. During the first two jumps, fouls were called, forcing him to be cautious on his last jump just to record a mark.

"He had to try to make sure he got a jump in so he scoots back a little bit," Alsop said. "He ended up jumping behind the board about six or eight inches which gave up 10, 11 inches of his jump."

Prior to the national meet, Wright and Miles battled nagging injuries which prevented them from a full week of workout.

With the indoor season finally behind them and the weather warming up, all the athletes can now turn their full attention to the outdoor season.

The men's and women's teams compete in their first meets of the outdoor season this weekend.

"Being outside always has its own set of adjustments, you know getting used to wind and different temperatures. Visually it's very different. The track looks much bigger. So, I'm just hoping to get a sense of where we are."

The men will spend nearly a full week in Tulsa, Okla. The women spent roughly 15 of their 45 athletes to Tulsa, Okla.

NW GOLF

Feuerbach, Northwest finish 3rd in season's opening meet

By Christopher Woodland
Missourian Reporter

Freshman Jessica Feuerbach and the Northwest women's golf team both finished third at Tuesday's Missouri Western Invitational at the Fairview and Moila Golf course.

Monday's rain forced the two-day event to be shortened to one 18-hole tournament on Tuesday, and Feuerbach shot an 87 to earn a third place medal. Shelby White, of Fort Hays State, won the tournament with a 76 and Carmen Titus, of Rockhurst, shot 82 to take home the second place medal.

"I was happy that I shot below a 90, but I can improve a lot personally which is a good thing," Feuerbach said. "I need to get more consistency and get into good position off the tee. It's got good distance but it always seemed to go off to one side or another."

Also for the Bears, Sarah Haynes shot a 93 to place ninth. Lauren Atkinson finished with 100, while Hannah Bowlin and Erin Luchtel finished at 101.

As a team, Northwest shot 381 to finish third out of four teams.

Fort Hays State finished one stroke ahead of Rockhurst to win the tournament 355 to Rockhurst's 356. Missouri Western finished nine strokes behind the 'Cats to place fourth.

McLaughlin said as the season continues, the team featuring all freshmen will get valuable experience.

"The girls have done great as far as being energetic and in good moods," coach Pat McLaughlin said. "The only downside to having all freshmen is they don't have the college experience, but they want to learn and get better."

That willingness to get better might give them an edge in their next meet at Wayne State which follows spring break. Rather than going to Florida or Mexico, these girls will continue working on their game during their week off. McLaughlin hasn't designated any required practices during the week, but said the girls are working on an honor code.

"We don't officially have practice over spring break," McLaughlin said. "It's an honor system type thing. The girls love playing, and listening to them on the way home they want to get better."

One area that McLaughlin and the team see need for improvement is their short game, which might be attributed to lingering winter weather forcing them to hit balls into a net in Marindale Gym, rather than playing on their home course at Mozingo. Soggy playing conditions could also be the reason for the problems in the short game by not allowing the balls to roll as they normally would.

"I heard a lot of people talking about their putting," Feuerbach said. "The courses haven't been maintained because of the weather. And when you take a few months off it's hard to get the feel back for golf."

The Wayne State Invitational will give the 'Cats a better overall picture of where they are as a team. The tournament consists of 10 teams, including several from Nebraska and Minnesota that they ordinarily wouldn't be able to play against.

The Wayne State meet begins March 30 at the Wayne Country Club in Detroit, Michigan and concludes March 31.

NW SOFTBALL

Bunt singles pave way for Griffons



NORTHWEST PITCHER Cole Krueger pitches during game one Wednesday against Missouri Western.

By Sam Robinson
Community Sports Editor

Had Northwest contained Missouri Western's No. 9 hitter, it would have gotten an MIAA victory.

But, instead of nothing their first conference win, the Bearcats watched Britany Douglas tally three hits (two bunt singles and score three runs).

Douglas' final hit, a seventh-inning bunt single, proved to be the dagger, as she scored the winning run in the Griffons' 5-4 win, Wednesday.

"I'm not going to take anything away from Mo. West, but we didn't help ourselves in this game at all," coach Ryan Anderson said.

It appeared Northwest was on its way to a rout in the first inning when

Western pitcher Kristi Warneke failed to record an out. Warneke allowed four walks and threw three wild pitches, but the 'Cats scored just one run.

"We thought about squeezing in that situation, but we were so inconsistent, we couldn't even afford to squeeze," he said.

In the fifth, Northwest led 2-1 until Douglas reached base. With runners at second and third, Western's Mandie Nodda sent Cole Krueger's pitch to the left field wall, scoring two runs.

The 'Cats answered an inning later with two runs on three hits.

Northwest played the double-header's second game with Western Wednesday (results not available at press time) and takes on Wayne State (Neb.) in a twin-bill, today at 1 p.m.

SPOOFHOUNDS

MHS GOLF

Stride for state meet starts today for golfers

By Dustin Sander
Missourian Reporter

The weather continues to be the biggest factor in preseason preparation for the Maryville boys' golf team.

"It gets really odd practicing inside, after two days, you've done everything... all you can do is practice your swing," senior captain Zack Jackson said.

Jackson's fellow captain Luke Hendrix agrees that the team will likely face cold, windy and rainy weather, compared to beautiful, sunny weather. The weather is very similar to this during the season, Hendrix said.

"The kids are just now getting a taste of what their play is going to look like," Maryville coach Brenda Ricks said.

The team has not been allowed onto the driving range yet this spring. Ricks' team may not play to its full potential after only five days of playing outside, Ricks said.

"The 'Hounds still continue to fill out the varsity and junior varsity rosters for the season-

opener. Freshmen will most likely round out the varsity team, Ricks expects sophomores to step up to play some varsity also.

After a tough season last year, the 'Hounds hope to make steady improvement. They are playing in a new district this season that has lost a few of the tougher teams, Ricks said.

"I'm sure we will better our record from last year," Ricks said, "but we don't know what we're up against."

Ricks said there is a good chance for some of her golfers to do well and possibly reach the state tournament.

"It's all about the district you're in, whether or not we make state."

The winning school from the district will qualify for state along with the 10 best individual scorers.

The 'Hounds will take on Savannah, a top conference opponent, today, at Duncan Hills Golf Course in Savannah. This match comes after only five practices outside.

MHS TRACK

photo by
Lafayette High School
Missourian photographer



MARYVILLE GIRLS' RUNNERS Molly Silens and Jordan Gaddis, practice for the track season. The season starts at 4 p.m., today, in Cameron for the boys and girls.

Environmental Services would like to Thank all those who volunteered to help with raking crews on campus.

| | | |
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MHS SOCCER

Season begins with MEC sleeper

By Christopher Woodland
Missourian Reporter

The Maryville girls' soccer team remains untested as Monday's heavy rain forced a rescheduling of Tuesday's game at Savannah. The game has been rescheduled for April 4.

Coach Bayo Oludaja didn't receive the cancellation notice until after 11 a.m. Tuesday, and thought his team was playing as scheduled. He said he thought the cancellation was due to an inability to prepare a rain-soaked field and pointed out that Maryville's field hasn't been painted.

Despite the wet ground, Oludaja took his team outside for just the third time all season, and practiced on a puddle-filled practice field, but still wishes they could have played a game.

"This would have been a good measure of where we are, because we haven't been able to be outside, and I was looking forward to it," Oludaja said.

The players were equally disappointed about the cancellation, as they wanted to get the first game jitters out of their system.

"I was kind of sad," senior Ashley Blanchard said. "I was pretty excited about going to Savannah and playing them. It (the first game) takes a lot of the nerves away, because everything

comes together."

Blanchard is one of four returning seniors along with Abbie Florea, Shayna Wasil and Christanna Hardee, that saw significant varsity playing time last season. The seniors, combined with a promising freshman class, are expected to help the Spoofhounds get out to a quick start in 2008.

"We've got a good group of freshmen in terms of their attitudes, and the older ones are great, too," Oludaja said. "They've got talent. We just need a chance to bring it all together."

A strong start could be the difference between a good season and a bad one for the 'Hounds as they lost six starters from last year's 12-8 team.

"It's very important," Blanchard said. "It helps attitudes and gets spirits high. If we lose, which I don't plan on losing, it puts a damper on things and means you have to go back to work."

Weather permitting, the 'Hounds play their first game today at home against conference foe Lafayette. Lafayette County, Smithville and Benton should pose the biggest challenge in the MEC, but Oludaja feels Lafayette could be a sleeper team in the MEC and shouldn't be ruled out.

The Lafayette game is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m., today, at Maryville High School.



MARYVILLE GIRLS' SOCCER player Amy Van de Ven completes a header as part of drills during practice on Monday. The girls' first home game is at 4 p.m., today, against Lafayette High School.

MHS BASEBALL

Inclement weather forces team to reschedule

By Brian Bosiljevac
Missourian Reporter

The Maryville baseball team has yet to take the field after the season's first two scheduled games were called off because of weather.

"More than anything it is just frustrating," coach Thom Alvarez said. "We have been inside most of the spring. They really want to get outside and just play some ball."

The postponement to the beginning of the season has brought some uncertainties to the Spoofhounds but also some eagerness to start the season off right.

"Being in the gym hurts us because we don't get a good feel for the field, but it has made us anxious to get out there and play," sophomore T.J. Stephens said.

The 'Hounds ended their 2007 season with a 5-11 record. This year, they strive to end the season on a

higher note. The 'Hounds main focus is cutting down on hurting themselves by committing errors.

"As far as season goals, we feel that if we cut down on the number of errors we make, that gives us a better chance to win more games, and that is always a team's goal," Alvarez said.

The team credits their optimism with a renewed sense of playing together as a team.

"The strongest aspect of the team is our team unity," coach Alvarez said. "We've got a really tight group of guys, who really play together well."

Alvarez said that a couple of the guys have already stepped into a leadership role on this 2008 squad.

One being senior Andy Walter, who has moved from his normal position of first base to shortstop in order to meet team needs.

"Andy has really embraced

shortstop for us and done a good job there," Alvarez said.

The other player to emerge into a leadership role is senior pitcher, Aaron Ducker.

"He (Ducker) is one of our main pitchers, he's one of those guys who makes the game fun. And he does a really good job with keeping the rest of the guys real loose," Alvarez said.

It seems that the senior class has taken the leadership roles on the team, but Alvarez still looks to "rookies," such as Stephens to step up and make a difference on the varsity squad this season.

The 'Hounds will finally get to take the field today in a rescheduled match-up at 4:30 p.m., today, in Savannah.

"We need to play solid defense," Alvarez said. "I expect our pitching to be solid. I don't think we're going to walk a lot of guys but we're also

Rescheduling? When will they play?

The Hounds' baseball team is eager to get out of the field and get the season going. The 2007 season ended with a 5-11 record and they're hoping for a turn-around.

■ 4:30 p.m., today, at Savannah
■ 4:30 p.m., Monday, at Beal Park

not going to over power a lot of guys either, so our defense will have a lot of opportunities. If we field the ball well and stay away from errors, I think we'll be alright."

After today's game against Savannah, the 'Hounds come home to face Benton at 4:30 p.m., Monday. The game has been moved to Beal Park instead of Maryville High School due to field conditions.

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JORDAN LENDER
JUGGLES tennis balls to entertain the sororities and fraternities of Northwest as part of the Zeus and Hera competition. Lenger, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, was Zeus.

CASINO: Bill divides state lawmakers

Continued from A3

"The loss limits are the final remaining provision of the gaming amendment adopted by Missouri voters in the early 1990s and are intended to protect families from excessive losses," Lager said in a statement by spokesman Rich Germinder. "I fully support these limits."

A Missouri GOP "party line" on gaming doesn't exist, Rupp said. He sees several different schools of thought, none exclusive to one party; some oppose gaming on moral grounds; others won't deviate from the will of the voters.

"There are a handful of Democrats that are for it, and a handful of Republicans that are against it," Rupp said. "It's a tight vote but it's pretty much split amongst Republicans and Democrats."

"You can lose \$1,000 in two hours and one minute or you can lose it in four hours. How is that going to stop someone unless they're just coming in with a bunch of money to burn? I've sat down with gaming counselors and asked them point-blank 'What effect do loss limits have on problem gaming?' and they all said 'Minimal impact.'"

The loss limits repeal has failed multiple times over the last couple years. It passed out of the Senate last year, but an amendment raised the tax item from 2 percent to 4 percent and ended its hopes, Rupp said.

The House didn't even look at it. He hopes the advent of casino gaming in Kansas can be the "X-factor" that gives the bill the legs to become law. The legislature saw gaming in Kansas coming last year, Rupp said. With gaming's introduction to the Sunflower State even closer now, Rupp hopes a sense of

urgency makes a difference this time.

Only Missouri out of all 50 states keeps loss limits on casinos. Magnetic cards unique to each casino track players' losses. A player can lose \$500 per day at any given casino.

Rupp, Welch and Terrible's St. Joseph Casino general manager Craig Travers all agree on this much: the limits won't stop gamblers from taking big losses. It might slow them down, but it won't stop them.

"Those individuals who wish to avoid the loss limits don't really care," Welch said. "Many of our boats in the St. Louis metropolitan area and the Kansas City area are in the same area. Somebody can go from one gaming boat to another gaming boat very quickly."

Travers said Missouri's gamers have long since evolved and adapted a sense of personal responsibility. Welch also pointed to the Missouri Gaming Commission's voluntary sign-off program. Addicted players may add themselves to a list banning them from any gaming area.

Players on the list can face criminal trespass charges if they show up in a casino.

"People have come to develop their own restrictions or limitations just by being exposed to it all these years and knowing what their disposable income is," Travers said. "What matters is, whenever you have an alternative place where you can do your gaming and the alternative in your mind seems a lot easier and more comfortable to deal with, then obviously that presents a threat to your business and your market share."

Addictive personalities don't make it that easy, Ed said. The casino atmosphere itself plays a part.

All the more reason to have some

control in place instead of nothing, Ed said.

"They have that addictive personality and then they get introduced to that 'free-spirit' so to speak for a few hours of gambling," Ed said. "They don't have any clocks in the casino. It's all designed to take your money."

As the private gaming industry goes, so the public business of funding Missouri schools might go also. Kansans already pump in a large chunk of the gaming revenue that boosts veteran programs and public education with visits to casinos at the Missouri-Kansas border.

Restricting Kansans' play wouldn't exactly entice them to forsake their state's gaming industry for Missouri's, Rupp said. If that happens, schools might lose out.

"A study said that 40 percent of those who attend the Missouri boats on the Kansas border live actually in Kansas," Rupp said. "If even half of those people stay at home for their Kansas casino, we would see a huge drop in the revenue for education in Missouri."

Ed might never meet Welch, Rupp, Travers or even Lager. He might never get to testify before a General Assembly on the merits of Missouri regulating how much casinos will let patrons lose. He supported casino gambling in Missouri when it started.

He now views gambling as a cycle. Deregulating it will only speed up creating more gamblers with demons such as his.

"A lot of people have the misconception that they win the casino's money," Ed said. "They don't. They win (money) the fellow sitting next to them is putting in the slot machine. The casino's always the winner."

DAWN:

Continued from A1

The letter-writing campaign raised the most money. Each team member wrote 50 letters to friends, family or companies.

St. Jude's tallied the amount of money that was raised by each team and the winner of the event was chosen from the amount the team's letters brought in, Scott said.

"This is when you find out who wrote the letters to the right people," Scott said.

The evening ended with Spencer Barr, a leukemia survivor, presenting a check for money raised through the year to the St. Jude's Foundation. Spencer was celebrating his 15th birthday and second year being cancer-free.

Barr was diagnosed with cancer two years ago, Spencer's father and Agriculture Instructor Rodney Barr said.

"It's a place that is near and dear to our hearts," Rodney said. Northwest Up "Til Dawn raised \$79,375.27 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital."

"It's an impressive number," Scott said. "It's something to celebrate."

MISSING: Still holding hope

Continued from A1

"I feel it's very important to keep the awareness out there, to keep the public constantly being renewed with: that the case is open, that it is still unsolved," Klino said. "I'm thinking maybe, hopefully, that people who do have the information, maybe one of these times they'll go by and they'll see it or they'll hear something about it and maybe the guilt will get to them."

"Then maybe it'll cause them to come forward."

Klino is also planning a fundraiser April 12 to observe the anniversary of Perry's disappearance. A raffle, auction and poker run are all being planned. In keeping the awareness out, Klino has found support from her friends, both old and new.

"I have got amazing friends," Klino said. "I've had amazing support from people I've never even met before."

Klino said that while she holds out hope for Perry's return, she also has confronted the possibility of a worse scenario. But what she wants more than anything is to know where her son is, or what has happened to him.

"I've met many people or talked to many different families who are in the same situation. And all of them

have made the comment that the not knowing is worse than the knowing," Klino said.

A \$10,000 reward has been issued for any information that leads to the discovery of Perry or for the arrest and conviction of anyone responsible for Perry's disappearance. A \$25,000 reward is also being offered by Castle Records. Anyone who has any information is encouraged to contact the Nodaway County Sheriff's department at 582-7451, the Missouri State Highway Patrol at (816) 387-2345 or Klino at Raperry@hughes.net. Klino also reiterated that tips can be submitted anonymously.

"Somebody knows what's happened. There may be more than one somebody that knows what happened," Klino said. "You may have heard something that you just blew off that has no importance whatsoever, but it may be the key answer to everything. No matter how small it is, or how trivial you might think it is, please don't hesitate to contact the law."

Klino also had one last message for Perry if he had the opportunity to hear.

"You are loved just as much today as you were that day that nobody saw you again," Klino said. "We still love you and we still miss you."

PALMS': Bar awaits Guinness record

Continued from A1

The rejection letters from presidents, popes and governors once warranted a "wall of shame" in the bar of dignitaries politely declining the Palms' offer, Allen said.

Allen rattled off a short list of rejections: Ronald Reagan, Dan Quayle and John Ashcroft, to name just a few.

Former Missouri Treasurer Wendell Bailey has been the most noteworthy Grand Marshall, Allen said.

"They were all sorry they couldn't come," Allen said.

At 5:17 p.m., the parade Guinness annually forgets started up Buchanan Street. The five-minute stroll brought out friends of the Palms from Schreck Motors, the Maryville Cooperative and Burny's Sports Bar, to Maryville's National Guard unit launching T-shirts into the small-but-enthusiastic crowd like pop-fies

off a bat.

Some Guardsmen riding in the parade included some deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, Army Sgt. Ted Finney said. Finney seemed sure some tastes of home just don't translate in the Middle East.

"There's nothing like this overseas," Finney said.

Members of the American Legion led the way flying America's and Missouri's colors. The Palms Girls—including dogs and the traditional baby pig cradled by St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen Tiffany Logue—rode past and flung strings of green beads for the happy on-lookers to chase.

Maryville even got a visit from not one, but two oversized "leprechauns" riding a tricycle behind the Burny's float and a larger three-wheeled novelty bike behind the Schreck Motors golf cart.

Topping it all off, a Maryville High School Spoofhound-decorated

cement mixer rained down a little green-ish water on Buchanan Street to put an exclamation point on Maryville's favorite five minutes of St. Patrick's Day.

From there, it was into the Palms for a few rounds—and a free multi-colored Jello shot on the way through the door.

It might seem like a lot of fuss for just one block, especially on an overcast, damp Monday afternoon. The Palms' friends turned out anyway, though.

Sarah Fowler, who came out to the Palms to enjoy her first St. Patrick's Day legally able to drink and her first Palms Parade, found a bright side to that.

"If it's in the Guinness Book of World Records, we should get as many people out here as we can," Fowler said. "It's going to be a big deal!"

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